

THE MILITANT

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Lumumba Forces Gaining in Congo

By M. L. Stafford

Feverish diplomatic maneuvering by the Kennedy administration is being pressed to salvage United States policy commitments in the strife-torn Congo. The U.S.-supported Kasavubu regime continues to lose ground as more and more Congolese, including army units, swell the ranks of the pro-Lumumba forces.

"At the moment," writes New York *Herald Tribune* columnist, Marguerite Higgins, "the increasingly weak 'central' government in Leopoldville of President Kasavubu has little to govern except the immediately surrounding countryside."

Patrice Lumumba, legally elected premier, was arrested by the Kasavubu government after Col.

Mobutu seized power in a military coup. As disaffection spread in the Congolese army, Lumumba was shifted to Katanga Province which is ruled by Belgium puppet, President-Premier Moise Tshombe. Lumumba is being closely guarded in prison by Belgian-trained troops.

Major Demand

Lumumba's release, says Marguerite Higgins, "has been the major demand of the left-leaning sections of the Afro-Asian bloc led by such countries as India, Egypt, Guinea and Ghana."

It has also been made one of the main demands of the Soviet Union and its allies in the United Nations.

Kasavubu was seated in the United Nations as Congo representative after strenuous intervention by Washington. He is known as the State Department man in the Congo.

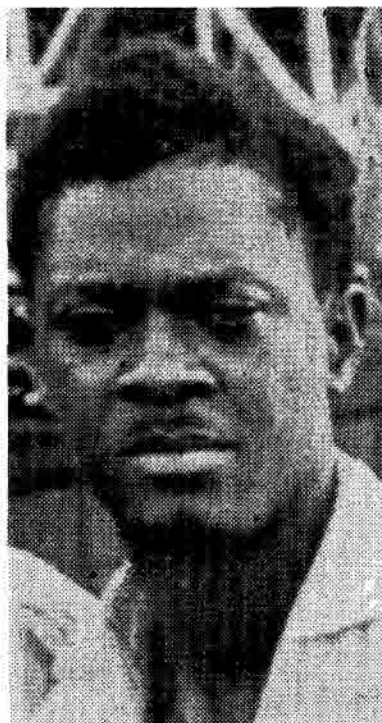
Although the U.S. has denied any responsibility for the continued imprisonment of Lumumba it now agrees to arrange his release as part of a deal for a new shuffle in the Congo.

As opposition to the Kasavubu regime continues to mount, the State Department seeks some formula to prevent total collapse of pro-Western influence in the Congo. It is proposed to establish a "neutralist" government in the Congo which would include the now imprisoned Lumumba.

Strings Attached

There are, however, according to Marguerite Higgins, "clear conditions," to "America's willingness to consider going along with the release from prison of fiery Patrice Lumumba and his inclusion at some unspecified level in a new broadly based government of the Congo."

Among the conditions is the demand for an agreement with Moscow on a formula that "would make it impossible for any new government to obtain arms and men from any of the chief protagonists in the cold war."



Patrice Lumumba

Woolworth and McCrory

Students at Friendship Junior College in Rock Hill have been staging daily picket-line demonstrations at Woolworth's and McCrory's for a number of weeks. Woolworth's has closed its lunch section to avoid sit-in actions.

In Orangeburg, S.C., nine Negro students were arrested Feb. 1 after taking seats at the local S.H. Kress lunch counter.

And in Lynchburg, Va., six students, four of them white, began serving 30-day sentences Feb. 7 after pleading guilty to a "trespass" charge imposed after they refused to leave a drug-store lunch counter.

Arguments on the constitutionality of the Virginia trespass law, which was adopted last year to curb sit-ins, were heard by a federal court Jan. 6. Last year 125 people were convicted under the law which provides maximum penalties of a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine for refusing to leave a place of business when ordered to do so.

"Jail, No Bail" Drive Begun in South Carolina

Four Southern student sit-in leaders chose prison to posting bond in Rock Hill, S.C., Feb. 6 as the opening of a projected Southwide "jail, no bail" campaign. They were arrested for requesting service at a Jim Crow lunch counter.

Representing campuses in four Southern states, the four are members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Council which issued a call, as they went to prison, urging Negroes throughout the region to come to Rock Hill and "join them at the lunch counters and in jail."

In addition to refusing to post bond pending trial, the group intends to refuse to pay any fine imposed.

They declared that their action was also in solidarity with nine other rights fighters who chose 30 days at hard labor to paying \$100 fines on a "trespass" conviction after ignoring police orders not to seek service at a local McCrory lunch counter.



Long lines of people brave snow and bitter cold outside a Pittsburgh school to receive rations of surplus food being distributed within. Unemployment, resulting from the closing of mines and reduced steel-mill operations in western Pennsylvania, has caused widespread suffering in the area. Surplus handouts, generally flour, corn meal, beans, sometimes powdered eggs or powdered milk, help families avoid starving part of the month. In most such areas, malnutrition among children is painfully evident.

Kennedy's "New Frontier" Looks Like Eisenhower's "Lost Horizon"

By C. Thomas

There has, up to now, been little more promise, so far as the welfare of the workers is concerned, in Kennedy's "New Frontier" than there was previously in Eisenhower's "Lost Horizon."

While the workers can take small comfort from Kennedy's State of the Union and Economic messages to Congress, the big-business community is chortling over the President's "cautious" and "conservative" approach to the problem of antirecession remedies.

While tossing the unemployed a crumb in suggesting an extension of 13 additional weeks in compensation payments, Kennedy earned the plaudits of the corporate bigwigs by his specific acceleration of armaments expenditures.

Stock Market Cheered

"In Wall Street," chuckled the business and financial editor of the New York *Herald Tribune*, Feb. 1, "diehard Republicans applauded and the stock market, cheered by the prospect of both increased defense expenditures and a Keynesian attack on an already petered-out recession, posted a solid advance on the

Phila. Cops Attack Anti-Nazi Students

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 2—Club-swinging cops attacked college and high-school students who turned out at the Boyd theater last night for a counterdemonstration to the picket line announced by "American Nazi Party" leader George Lincoln Rockwell for the local premier of *Exodus*, which deals with Israel.

The cops barricaded the area and used police dogs to disperse the students. Those who protested were hauled off in patrol cars. Several students were beaten, one so badly that he was hospitalized.

According to the press, 114 students and three Nazis were jailed. Fifty who were under 18 were released after being held several hours. The others were charged with "inciting to riot" and "breaching the peace." A magistrate dismissed the charges when the cops failed to present evidence.

Today's *Pennsylvanian*, University of Pennsylvania paper, said that numerous students had protested the brutality of the police and their violation of civil liberties in denying them the right to counterpicket Rockwell's gang. Rockwell himself never showed up.

broadest trading in market history."

Instead of the promised increase in minimum wages to \$1.25 per hour, Kennedy has trimmed the amount to \$1.15 thus retreating to the ground previously occupied by the Eisenhower administration. The same is true on the income tax forgiveness proposal of the AFL-CIO which the president specifically rejected "until things got a lot worse."

Too "Republican"

In contrast is Kennedy's pledge to give tax concessions to corporations for investment in plant expansion. "Already," says the syndicated columnist, William S. White, "the ultra-liberals are grumbling that this point is altogether too 'Republican,' in tone. 'In fact,' he adds, 'it is simply

soundly conservative — neither Democratic nor Republican in origin."

Of more ominous import to the workers is the announcement by Kennedy of his intention to "issue an executive order establishing the President's Advisory Committee on Labor-Management Policy, with members drawn from labor, management and the public."

This announcement was coupled with a warning that "we cannot afford unsound wage and price movements which push up costs, weaken our international competitive position," etc., etc.

This is the same kind of propaganda put out by the National Association of Manufacturers. The establishment of a government tripartite board to control wages bodes ill for the unionized workers of this country.

Big Business Pickpockets Draw Token Jail Sentences

A group of corporate pickpockets employed by some of the largest electrical companies in the world received mild jail terms and minimum fines for criminal violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act. Sentence was pronounced in an atmosphere of judicial apology for applying the letter of the law to such outstanding pillars of the capitalist community.

A select group of defendants drew 30 days. Others were set free because of advanced age or reasons of health. The utmost consideration was given to avoid making the culprits feel like criminals. Sentences were passed more in sorrow than in anger.

In every case the sentence was below the statutory maximum which called for a \$50,000 fine on each count and a year in jail for the individual defendants.

An Outrage!

The attorney for one of the defendants, W. S. Ginn, vice-president and division manager of General Electric, was outraged at the idea of his client doing time behind bars. The sanctimonious outfit employing Mr. Ginn recently broke a strike of its employees who were asking for meager concessions.

In defense of his client, attorney Reath, "insisted that Mr. Ginn had only followed long-established company policy by getting together with supposed competitors to arrange their business."

"It would be a great personal tragedy," deplored lawyer Reath, "for this fine man to go to jail with common criminals who have been convicted of embezzlement and other serious crimes."

All Mr. Ginn and the others were guilty of, you see, was following the general corporation practice of picking the pockets of people buying electrical equipment and services. It is estimated that the amount of their pilfering was in the neighborhood of \$2 billion. For this the price-fixing corporations involved were fined a total of \$822,500. Certainly not a field for "common" criminals.

Where Was McClellan?

And where was the Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field — otherwise known as the McClellan committee — while all this was going on? These watchdogs over the integrity of the heads of labor and management must have known there was dirty work afoot in the electrical industry. Yet there was no televised inquisition of Mr. Ginn and his fellow crooks.

The code for Operation Price Fix was a scheme called "phase of the moon." Apparently watchdog McClellan preferred barking at the labor movement to baying at the corporate "moon."

The moral is: Crime does not pay — unless the amount of money involved is in the millions — then its big business.

Canadians Tell Off Editor of "Union News"

By Tom Terry

Many Canadian workers are seriously questioning the value of remaining affiliated to AFL-CIO international unions whose headquarters, leadership and policy determination are concentrated in American hands.

A recent incident involving a Canadian affiliate of the AFL-CIO Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union, goes a long way toward explaining the growing division between Canadian affiliates and their parent bodies in this country.

A letter in the Jan. 9 issue of *Union News*, official organ of the OCAW, signed by "members of the Shell Refinery Negotiating Committee, Local 16-601, North Burnaby, British Columbia, vigorously protested the editorial position of the paper on the shorter work week.

"Negative" Solution

It appears that in their negotiations with the corporation one of the demands of the local was for a shorter work week. In rejecting this demand, management quoted from an editorial in *Union News*, stigmatizing the proposal for shorter hours as a "negative 'share-the-misery' solution."

The members of the local's negotiating committee were outraged. "The members of our negotiating committee," they write, "feel silly clutching clippings from the local press, the *Financial Post* and *Business Week* all substantiating our case, while across the table sits management with smirks on their faces and *Union News* in their hands."

They then take up the view of the *Union News* editor and try to

explain to him the facts of life. "We in B.C.," they say, "have the highest rate of unemployment in Canada and unemployment in Canada is worse than in the U.S."

"This was recognized by the B.C. Federation of Labour at their recent convention, and a resolution was passed in favour of the shorter work week as a means of increasing employment.

"Local 16-601," they continue, "is affiliated with the B.C. Federation of Labour and it is highly unpleasant to our negotiating committee to be undercut by our International Union while trying to carry out Federation policy."

The committee letter then calls into question the "thinking" process of the editorial writer. "He condemns the shorter work week," they say, "as a means of creating employment — a solution which can be and has been put into effect by militant trade union action — and says the solution is a 'constantly expanding economy.'"

"Well, that's wonderful," says the committee letter with justifiable irony, "but how does the writer of this editorial propose to bring about an expansion of the economy, and at what date does he propose to start expanding it? We have hundreds of thousands of unemployed in Canada who are anxious to know."

The committee letter then proceeds to teach the "ivory tower"

editorial writer some elementary facts of political life.

"Unionists in Canada," they point out, "agree that long term solutions to unemployment involve such measures as expanding the economy, redistributing the wealth of our country, etc. However, we are realistic enough to know that these things are not possible without government intervention, and we also realize that our present 'big business' controlled governments are not going to take any action which offends the source of their campaign funds."

What Course?

The committee letter then makes its most telling point. Given the "big business" character of the present governments in Canada and the United States, what course of action should be taken? In recognition of these facts of life the committee letter states:

"Therefore we are building a new political party in order to bring about a planned economy — planned for the benefit of the people, that is, and not for the wealthy few. (Will your new Kennedy administration take action that will really help the people — now?)"

So far as "the long term, and we hope permanent solution," is concerned, what "we intend to put into effect in Canada will take time (the founding convention of

our new party won't be held 'til the summer of 1961). But the unemployed want jobs now, today, and we, the members of Local 16-601 are going to do our part in supplying them. If we are successful in obtaining a shorter work week, we will create new jobs immediately—with the stroke of a pen."

In attempting to explain and justify his position of opposing the shorter work week as a "negative" solution the *Union News* editor merely compounded his errors. These errors flow not so much from ignorance, we believe, as from the attempt to hew to the incorrect line of action laid down by the AFL-CIO tops.

The AFL-CIO union "statesmen" have dropped the shorter work week from their list of demands in deference to the promise of the Kennedy administration to eliminate unemployment by "expanding the economy."

Demand Left Out

The AFL-CIO Executive Council met in Washington to act on the mounting economic crisis prior to the Kennedy inauguration. At this meeting they formulated a "20-point program" to submit to the new administration. Although the last convention of the AFL-CIO had gone on record in favor of the shorter work week, this demand was carefully and deliberately left out. Why?

Because the spineless labor skates have no stomach for the kind of a fight that would be required to win the shorter work week. It is much easier to foster the illusion that the coauthor of the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin "killer" act and his big-business administration in Washington are going to solve all their problems for them.

It is not only the editor of the OCAW *Union News* that is preaching this line. Practically all of the editors of union newspapers and magazines are following suit. After all, they do not make policy, they merely follow the line laid down by the top union bureaucrats.

Merit of Canadians

It is to the great merit of the Canadian union members that they are succeeding, in a small but important way, to lay bare the false and treacherous policy of the American labor fakers on the decisive question of the struggle for a shorter work week.

As the writers of the letter to *Union News* point out, the problem is both economic and political. Their method is to attack the problem on both fronts. On the economic front they are raising the demand for a shorter work week as their main union demand in negotiations with the employer.

On the political front they dismiss as a delusion and a snare the

policy of relying on the big-business parties and governments whose main purpose is to serve the economic interests of the employing class. The essence of their line is: Militant trade-union action against the individual employers, and independent working-class political action against the employers organized as a class functioning through their executive arm — the government.

No Reliance

Their line can be summed up in a sentence: No reliance on the capitalist government either local, state or national; reliance only on the independent action of the workers organized in their own unions and in their own political party.

When the American workers learn the lesson that the Canadian brothers try to teach, the bonds of solidarity and effective joint action will cement the workers of North America into an irresistible force capable of conquering state power and transforming this continent into a workers paradise.

When It's a Crime To Pass Out Leaflets

SEATTLE — Passing out leaflets has become a crime in this city. On Jan. 20 Mrs. Florestine Ware, secretary of the Seattle Negro Independent Association, was arrested for handing out leaflets urging boycott of an allegedly discriminatory employer.

The charge was violation of an ordinance aimed at minimizing littering of the streets.

On Jan. 27 Gloria Warner and Louise Crowley were arrested for "disobeying" a police officer. The disobedience consisted of continuing to distribute leaflets protesting the arrest of Mrs. Ware.

The victims are being defended by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Polaris Case Won By Eight Pacifists

Indictments against eight pacifists charged with seeking to interfere with the launching of a nuclear submarine at Groton, Conn., were dismissed Feb. 1.

The eight members of the Committee for Non-Violent Action were arrested Nov. 22 for demonstrating at the launching of the Polaris missile submarine Ethan Allen.

They were charged with entering an area restricted by the Navy, and "knowingly" obstructing the launching.

Two of the eight were charged with scrambling aboard the submarine. These charges were not affected by dismissal of the other charges.

The pacifists are seeking to arouse nonviolent resistance to preparations for atomic war.

Robert F. Williams To Speak in Detroit

DETROIT — Robert F. Williams, militant Southern civil-rights fighter, will speak at a Negro History Week Celebration Friday, Feb. 17, sponsored by the Friday Night Socialist Forum. The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. at Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward.

Williams is chairman of the Union County, N. C., NAACP and a founder of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. He is publisher of the weekly civil-rights newsletter, the *Crusader*.

Seattle Takes Dim View of an 'Anti-Red' Film

As the result of strong protest, the Seattle public-school system has decided not to sponsor showings of *Communism on the Map*, a rabidly McCarthyite film strip which asserts that every government in the world except those of Switzerland, Formosa, West Germany and the U.S. are controlled or influenced by "Communists."

The film is being shown along with *Operation Abolition*, the House Un-American Activities Committee's crudely doctored news clips of the San Francisco student demonstrations against the Committee.

Produced at Harding College, Searcy, Ark., *Communism on the Map* has been shown by Boeing Airplane Co. and at Sand Point Naval Air Station. A spokesman said the film was purchased by the commanding officer and wasn't used for recruiting purposes.

The Seattle distributor of the film said that Louisiana has made public-school showings mandatory and that the Army, Navy and Air Force is showing it overseas.

A large audience turned out to see the film and hear a debate on it at the University of Washington. The students were visibly unimpressed by the film.

Later 92 faculty members signed a letter to the press blasting the film.

"Inside Red China" Showing in New York

The *National Guardian* is sponsoring the first public showing in New York of a new film on the People's Republic of China, Mon., Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Diplomat, 108 W. 43rd St., between 6th and 7th Aves.

The film, *Inside Red China*, was made and will be narrated by Robert Cohen, American documentary film-maker, who recently returned from a six-week, 7,000-mile journey through China.

Tickets at \$1.50 will be available at the door or can be obtained from the *Guardian* office at 197 E. 4th St.

Weekly Calendar

LOS ANGELES

Two Seminars. (1) Cuba, Theodore Edwards, Sundays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. through March 5. (2) Rise and Decline of the Communist Party, Arne Swaback, Communist party founder, and Max Goldman, Sundays, 12:30-2 p.m., through March 5. Contrib. 35 cents. International School of Socialism, 1702 E. 4th St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238.

NEW YORK

The Life of Frederick Douglass — Lessons for Today. Speaker, George Breitman. Fri., Feb. 17, 8:30 p.m. Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Pl. Contrib. 50 cents.

Three classes. (1) The Cuban Revolution. Instructor, Richard Garza. Saturdays, 2 p.m., beginning Feb. 18. (2) History of the Russian Revolution, Instructor, Bert Deck. Tuesdays, 8 p.m., beginning Feb. 14. (3) Socialism — Utopian and Scientific. Instructor, Fred Halstead. Sundays, 11 a.m., beginning Feb. 19. Contrib. 25 cents per session. Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Pl.

DENVER

Negro History Week Celebration. Speakers: James Atkins, former professor, Tennessee Agricultural & Industrial U., Juanita Gray, exec. bd., Coordinating Council Human Relations, Tom Leonard, trade unionist. Sat., Feb. 18, 8 p.m. Militant forum, 1227 California. Contrib. 50 cents.

Local Directory

BOSTON. Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 200.

CHICAGO. Socialist Workers Party, 302 South Canal St., Room 210. WE 9-0544.

CLEVELAND. Socialist Workers Party, 5027 Euclid Ave., Room 23, Cleveland 3, Ohio.

DENVER. Militant Labor Forum, 1227 California. Main 3-0993. For labor and socialist books, International Book Exchange, 1227 1/2 California. Open 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

DETROIT. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. TEmple 1-6135.

LOS ANGELES. Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop. Socialist Workers Party, 1702 East Fourth St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily, Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MILWAUKEE. 150 E. Juneau Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS. Socialist Workers Party and Labor Book Store, 104 Hennepin Ave., Hall 240. FEderal 2-7781.

NEWARK. Newark Labor Forum, Box 361, Newark, New Jersey.

NEW YORK CITY. Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place. AL 5-7852.

OAKLAND-BERKELEY. P.O. Box 341, Berkeley 1, Calif. Phone OL 5-1764.

PHILADELPHIA. Militant Labor Forum and Socialist Workers Party, 1303 W. Girard Ave. Lectures and discussions every Saturday, 8 p.m., followed by open house. Call PO 3-5820.

SEATTLE. 1412 18th Ave., EA 5-0191. Library, bookstore. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

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C. Wright Mills

"He Defies the Men in Power"

Beginning with that estimate of America's leading sociologist, William F. Warde discusses C. Wright Mills' book, *The Sociological Imagination*, in the winter issue of *International Socialist Review*.

Warde views Mills' methodology as more progressive than that of the currently dominant schools of sociology, which Mills demonstrates to be completely barren. But, argues Warde, the Marxist method — which Mills finds only partially valid — is a more effective sociological tool than the theory of Max Weber, who is viewed by Mills as the foremost sociologist of this century.

Listen, Yankee, is favorably reviewed by Joseph Hansen. The editor of the *Militant* draws on Dr. Mills' material in demonstrating the sweeping character of the Cuban Revolution.

Send 35 cents for a copy.

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Monday, February 13, 1961

Draw Your Own Conclusions

How serious is the Kennedy administration in pressing forward its promise to conduct a serious assault on Jim Crow? The Democratic party platform, in proclaiming the objective of achieving an end to all forms of segregation, stated that "to accomplish these goals will require . . . improved Congressional procedures to safeguard majority rule."

The principle of safeguarding majority rule was the ostensible goad which prodded the Kennedy administration into the fight to change the rules in both House and Senate.

In the House it was generally recognized that control over the Rules Committee by a reactionary coalition has often barred Congress from acting on legislation opposed by the mossbacks who controlled the committee.

In the Senate it was conceded that filibuster Rule XXII constituted the main roadblock to consideration of legislation outlawing some of the more flagrant Jim Crow practices.

Consider, then, the startling contrast between the aggressive way in which the Kennedy administration pressed its fight to break the coalition stranglehold on the House Rules Committee with the way it conducted itself in the Senate conflict to amend Rule XXII.

The Jan. 29, *New York Times*, reported that in the House fight an administration spokesman declared: "We are in this fight to win and are going to use every legitimate weapon at our command if necessary." And they did! From Kennedy on down.

Kennedy openly announced his position at a televised news conference. Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn, threw the tremendous weight of his power and prestige into the balance. The chief patronage dispensers of the Kennedy administration telephoned, buttonholed and besieged every prospective vote. Recalcitrant Democrats were threatened, on-the-fence Democrats were bought off, ailing Democrats limped or were wheeled in to cast their vote. The outcome — the administration won by a narrow margin of five votes.

In the Senate, where the issue of civil rights was directly involved, the Kennedy administration sabotaged the fight from the very start. Whatever pressure was applied went to break down the determination of senators to carry the struggle to a victorious conclusion.

The result: The Dixiecrats won by an even narrower margin of four votes—50 to 46. One commentator declared that just a few phone calls from a Kennedy lieutenant could have reversed the result. Draw your own conclusions!

Threat of Tripartite Boards

The most hated of wartime devices to curb union militancy and deprive the unions of their independence of action was the tripartite labor board. The War Labor Board, composed of representatives of labor, management and the "public," was based on the pernicious fiction of "equality of sacrifice." Under the "equality of sacrifice" swindle the unions surrendered their right to strike in exchange for a piddling concession — the maintenance of membership clause.

The supporting pillars of the War Labor Board were the no-strike pledge and the Little Steel wage-freezing formula under which the cost of living soared, profits skyrocketed to astronomical heights, while wages remained frozen. With the end of the war the unions shattered the "equality of sacrifice" hoax and its most obnoxious offspring, the War Labor Board.

With the advent of the Kennedy administration, we are once again hearing the siren song of class collaboration in the form of a proposal for a tripartite Advisory Committee on Labor and Management Policy. The proposal for such a board was first advanced by Arthur J. Goldberg before he was tagged as Kennedy's Secretary of Labor.

The premise for the Kennedy-Goldberg board is based on the "equality of sacrifice" fraud. In his message to Congress on the balance of international payments and gold, Kennedy again highlighted the proposal for a tripartite board. The reasons he advanced were a repetition of the refrain heard in his State of the Union and Economic messages to Congress. Everyone must make maximum sacrifices for the good of the country!

Therefore, some lid must be clamped on wages with the promise, of course, that prices would also be "stabilized." To make sure that such is the result of the Kennedy policies, a tripartite board will be established to "encourage productivity gains, advance automation and encourage sound wage policies and price stability."

One can find the identical language to justify the imposition of wage controls under the old War Labor Board and its allied agencies. The only thing lacking is the "no-strike pledge." And judging by Goldberg's record that too is coming.

As attorney for the United Steel Workers Union, Goldberg spawned the labor-management "hearts and flowers" policies which McDonald so carefully nurtured. The announced object being a no-strike agreement in steel which would serve as a model for all industry. That is the inevitable logic of the tripartite board.

That 'Low-Cost' Blue Cross

By Harry Ring

The scandalous state of medical care in this country was pointed up again when a resolution was introduced in the New York State Legislature Feb. 1 calling for an investigation of the Blue Cross hospital plan. At issue is the sky-high rates charged by Blue Cross and the juicy salaries and bonuses that the officers of the plan vote themselves.

This is the only major country in the world without some form of federal medical care. The result has been overcrowded, understaffed hospitals, criminal neglect of the sick, monopoly-rigged drug prices, and medical fees that have made doctors the country's highest-income professional group. Private "nonprofit" plans like Blue Cross have developed into an additional source of gravy for the profession.

"Chaos"

Dr. Leona Baumgartner, New York City's Health Commissioner, charges that the absence of comprehensive federal medical legislation has brought the nation's medical service to a state of "chaos."

In a Feb. 1 Boston speech, Dr. Baumgartner said there is "a splintering, a fragmentation in the way personal health services are made available."

This means, she said, "that thousands of people — at a time when they are ill, worried and under great stress because of disease and disability — go from doctor to doctor, office to clinic to hospital, one test and treatment here, another there."

It is no longer only the poor who can't get adequate medical

service. Medical "chaos" now extends into virtually every social and economic grouping, says Dr. Baumgartner.

Her point was underlined by the pending New York probe of Blue Cross. Republicans and Democrats alike joined in supporting the proposal for the investigation of the plan which has 7,200,000 subscribers in 17 New York counties. Members of the legislature said they have been besieged by hundreds of letters from irate constituents.

In the state senate, Democratic Minority Leader Joseph Zaretzki said he favored the probe because "Blue Cross is supposed to be low-cost health insurance for the masses, but there's nothing low-cost about it lately."

Premium Hikes

Nobody can argue with him on that. In the past three years the State Insurance Commission has granted Blue Cross three whopping rate increases.

In 1958, premiums were hiked 22.3 per cent. In 1959, another 26.4 per cent was added on, and last year a thumping 33.45 per cent increase was granted.

These pyramiding increases have jumped Blue Cross rates by 105 per cent.

Meanwhile, top officers of the plan have helped themselves to handsome salary increases and cheery Christmas bonuses.

Executive salaries averaged more than \$20,000 in 1959, the last year for which figures are available.

The current president drew \$31,211 that year and the man he replaced was kept on the payroll

as an "actuarial consultant" at \$26,347.

Christmas bonuses for top officers rose from \$146,836 in 1957 to \$201,970 in 1959.

Not Uncommon

Other aspects of the disgraceful medical situation in the country are summed up in the continuing revelations about conditions at New York's municipal Harlem Hospital which hit the local headlines when a staff member charged Jan. 30 that two women patients had died the previous month for lack of proper medical care.

Such deaths are "not an uncommon occurrence," conceded Dr. Canute B. Bernard, director of the hospital's house staff council.

Dr. Bernard admitted that the house staff has been slashed from 128 residents and interns to 60 in the last six or seven months, mainly because foreign doctors failed new ultrarigid qualifying examinations of the American Medical Association.

But there have been some rather unusual efforts to relieve overcrowding at Harlem Hospital. Dr. Aubrey de L. Maynard, director of surgery, charged Jan. 31 that Mt. Sinai, a private "nonprofit" hospital has been "stealing" cases from Harlem.

Administrative officials admitted that "interesting" medical cases have been simply hauled off to Mt. Sinai without consulting Harlem's medical staff.

In addition to special ailments, mostly of a long-term nature, the transferred patients have another "interesting" quality. Mt. Sinai receives \$24 a day from the city for each welfare patient admitted.

Socialized medicine, anyone?

In Other Lands

Nicaraguan Rebels Score Victories

Suffer Casualties But Capture Arms

A guerrilla movement, formed in the mountains of Nicaragua, has scored some encouraging successes against the military forces of the American-backed Somoza dictatorship.

The December issue of *La Verdad*, a Nicaraguan paper published in exile, carries an extensive account of an interview in November with Comandante Heriberto Reyes, one of the principal leaders of the rebel columns, at the mountain headquarters of the Movimiento Revolucionario Nicaragüense Unificado (United Nicaraguan Revolutionary Movement).

Reyes described encounters between the guerrillas and Nicaraguan army contingents in the four months since the rebels began operating in the mountains. By well chosen attacks they succeeded in securing arms, including machine guns and Garand rifles.

They suffered some casualties but have gained in strength.

The correspondent of *La Verdad* said that some of the rebels were bearded like the followers of Castro but were not Cubans.

There are other revolutionary Nicaraguan groups to whom *La Verdad* appeals for united action against the dictatorship.

The kind of program the Nicaraguan rebels stand on can be gathered from a "decatalogue of principles and objectives" published by the September 21 Movement.

The decatalogue calls for establishment of a provisional government, reorganization of the National Army on a "democratic basis," establishment of revolutionary courts, enactment of labor laws to guarantee free trade unions and social rights, promotion of agrarian reform as the basis for the industrial growth of the country, the planned development of Nicaragua, political freedom and honest elections, a constituent

assembly, and a Federal Republic of Central America closely linked to all nations in the Caribbean.

In a leaflet issued in November, the MRNU appeals especially to soldiers to turn against the bloody Somoza dictatorship and join the freedom fighters in the mountains.

Color Line for Taxis In South Africa

P. G. Joubert, chairman of the Local Road Transportation Board, warned taxi-owners in Cape Town, Jan. 18, that they must carry only passengers of the race for which they have been authorized, according to the Cape Argus.

Joubert issued the warning to Negro taxi drivers of the South African city. They were called together in a meeting after it was observed that many of them carry white passengers who hail them for taxi service.

Under South Africa's rabid racist laws, cab drivers are limited to carrying passengers of their own skin color.

Argentine Voters Back Cuban Revolution

Argentine President Arturo Frondizi, a favorite of the State Department, received a stunning defeat in a Feb. 5 by-election when two members of his Radical Intransigent party failed to win office.

The election, involving some 1,490,000 voters, about 12 per cent of the electorate, was recognized well in advance as a referendum on the popularity of the Frondizi regime and its policy of kowtowing to American imperialism.

The victor in the senate race was a socialist, 80-year-old Dr. Alfredo Lorenzo Palacios. He campaigned on a program of strong support to the Cuban

revolution and bitter denunciation of the Frondizi administration as a lackey of imperialistic capitalism and an enemy of the working man.

The socialist candidate received 308,000 votes. Nicolas Romano of the middle-class People's Radical party came second with 301,000 votes. Frondizi's candidate, Senator Armando Turano, who was running for re-election, won only 250,000 votes. The rest of the vote was divided among 13 other candidates.

The Peronistas, whose candidates are barred from running for office, called for blank ballots as a protest. These amounted to 232,000.

In the contest for Chamber of Deputies, Dr. Carlos Adrogué of the People's Radical party nosed out Dr. Ramon Muniz, the socialist candidate, while Frondizi's candidate, Horace Pueryredon came in third.

The Radical Intransigent party received only 18 per cent of the total vote cast.

After the returns were in, crowds marched through the streets of Buenos Aires celebrating the socialist victory. They shouted, "To the wall with Frondizi and the Yankees."

The followers of Juan Peron joined in the march, since Dr. Palacios had strongly protested against military trials for unionists and members of political parties. The Peronistas have been especially victimized by this authoritarian procedure.

Realizing the importance of the election, Frondizi went all out to try to win it. He cut gasoline prices, announced new credits and investments and stressed the theme that Argentina was on the road toward economic plenty.

Aping the Democratic and Republican candidates in the U.S., Frondizi staged an expensive TV and soapbox campaign. But the people were not diverted from the real issue. They voted for Castro and against Kennedy.

Freedom of Speech

Colodny Stands Firm

By Fred Halstead

An attempt to end the career of a Pittsburgh University professor of history because he publicly expressed sympathy for the Cuban Revolution has met with opposition from students and other professors.

The attack on Dr. Robert G. Colodny, one of the early sponsors of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, began after an article in the Jan. 15 *Pittsburgh Press* reported that the professor had once fought against Franco in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and now maintained that the Cuban Revolution deserves support as an agrarian reform movement.

The next day, a resolution was introduced into the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives by John T. Walsh, a Democrat. The resolution said in part: "Any professor who confuses the dirt of the Castro regime with the earth of any agrarian policy is a con-

fused person, and unreliable as a teacher."

The resolution also called for an investigation to root out any supporters of the Cuban Revolution from state-supported schools.

Agnew, the House Republican leader supported his Democratic colleague saying: "I don't want somebody to yell 'academic freedom' as an alibi. Anybody gullible enough to call Castro an 'agrarian reformer' has no business on the faculty of a State-aided institution."

The *Pittsburgh Press* was just as blatant in a Jan. 19 editorial, contending that Dr. Colodny had no right to teach at the University while he publicly supported the Cuban Revolution.

Legion, Too

The Commander of the American Legion in Allegheny County said: "... any person who asks for 'Fair Play for Cuba' in these times and who, in a prior time fought with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain is no historian. He is a partisan, enlisted in the ranks of those who could enslave the world."

On the other hand the student newspaper *Pitt News* called Dr. Colodny "one of the University's finest professors" and rebuked the *Pittsburgh Press* for attacking him. Chancellor Edward Litchfield also defended Dr. Colodny; but under pressure of the attacking legislators, set up a committee to investigate "the charges."

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Association of University Professors protested the attack on Colodny saying: "We shall defend any professor, regardless of his associations, against any attack upon his expression of ideas, from whatever sources and however unpopular those ideas may be."

"We call upon all citizens to support academic freedom and to resist domination of the nation's scholars by government."

The AAUP chapter at Carnegie Tech. took a similar stand.

Voting Rights

Only 64.3 per cent of the voting age population cast ballots in the 1960 election, according to the American Heritage Foundation, which found restrictive election laws a major factor in the low turnout. Mississippi was at the bottom of the list with 25.63 per cent of those of voting age going to the polls.

Bureau reported that 12,000 cases of liquor were smuggled in during the past year at a loss of \$300,000 in tax revenue. It is now estimated that 2,500 officers were involved in the rum-running operation.

Specialization — A new firm, "Names, Inc.," will have the sole function of helping companies select corporate and brand names. A spokesman explained that poor selection of names has been a significant factor in the high rate of new product failures. Outrageous prices and shoddy quality are obviously not factors worthy of specialized attention.

Planning? Who Needs It? — The U.S. will probably face a critical water shortage by 1970, warns the House Science and Astronautical committee. The committee said this country is likely to be the first of the world's large industrial powers "to find itself seriously threatened by fresh water shortage."

Videolepsy — British physicians report that the flicker of a television screen can induce a convulsive attack similar to that charac-



Victims Still Dying From First A-Bombs

An estimated 230,000 persons still suffer from radioactive diseases resulting from the two atomic bombs that Truman dropped on Japan in 1945, according to a Jan. 31 Reuters dispatch from Tokyo.

Of these, 4,500 were still in hospitals at the end of 1960. Many more have committed suicide in despair.

The Japanese government is spending more than 100,000,000 yen (about \$265,000) a year on treatment for atomic-bomb victims.

The Hiroshima Municipal Office estimated that 420,000 persons were in the city August 6, 1945 when the bomb was dropped. This included 250,000 civilians, 90,000 drafted workers and 80,000 soldiers.

According to the Japanese Welfare Ministry, 361,545 persons were affected by this single explosion. The figures include 78,150 killed instantly, 139,830 missing and 36,425 injured, 9,428 seriously.

An estimated 220,000 to 240,000, including 160,000 civilians, were in Nagasaki when the second bomb was dropped, according to the Nagasaki Municipal Office. Of these 73,884 were killed instantly and 76,796 were injured. The number of missing is not known.

teristic of epilepsy. There was no report on possible physiological effects of commercials.

One Down — The California Supreme Court has struck down a state law requiring a "loyalty" oath from organizations seeking to use public-school facilities. Los Angeles and San Diego were ordered to open their school auditoriums to the American Civil Liberties Union which tested the law by refusing to sign the oath.

Teamster Membership — The International Brotherhood of Teamsters reports that its dues-paying membership reached 1,700,992 last November. The report said these figures would indicate that one out of every ten union members in the country belongs to the Teamsters.

"Local Custom" — California Attorney General Stanley Mosk charged Feb. 2 that the Defense Department is assigning Negro missile personnel to "distant Negro areas rather than nearby white areas." He disclosed that in reply to a protest the Pentagon said the Army "normally adhered to local custom."

Letters from Our Readers

Personal History

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Enclosed is a check for \$10 — a contribution to your good work in socialist education. Here is at least one pocketful of money that the "hidden persuaders" won't pump out of me.

Permit me to make two points by citing a little personal history. I'm a 21-year-old student, but I've been interested in (and concerned about) politics for four years. Until about a year ago I considered myself simply a liberal in political orientation, but since then I have come to the point of giving my support to the Socialist Workers party. Why?

Point 1: The Cuban Revolution; having supported Castro from the start, I found it hard to make an about-face as soon as he started taking over U.S. companies. As a result I became more radical, just as Castro was forced to become, and I started to investigate socialism conscientiously. The Cuban Revolution acted on me as an educational force.

I only tell you this because I believe that my experience can be generalized. Many young liberals must have found the Cuban Revolution as I did — the most significant and eye-opening event in the modern world. Therefore, you would do well to stress and explain the enormous importance of Cuba as a way of breaking down the barrier against socialist thought.

Point 2: I came in contact with the SWP only because a newsstand in Akron happened to display a copy of the *International Socialist Review*, which I bought out of curiosity. Placing the *International Socialist Review* and the *Militant* on newsstands seems to me a way of reaching many people who would otherwise never hear of the SWP.

R. M.

Embittered with Unions

Philadelphia, Pa.
I like the letters from your readers and hope to see something from them on Social Security.

Those on Social Security should get an increase before those who get weekly wages. Social Security payments are not enough to live on. Why can't this matter be seen by those who worry so much about education? What we need is more for those who have no job at all so they can buy something to eat.

Too many workers are holding two jobs and also have their wives working and driving to work in automobiles. I suppose they want these cars.

Laundry workers just got a raise in wages and I paid more this week to get my clothes washed. The AFL-CIO is a big racket at the expense of other members of our class.

E. J. H.

Happy Birthday!

New York, N. Y.
In celebration of my seventieth birthday this month, I renewed my subscription to the *National Guardian* and also sent them a donation of five dollars.

As my conscience bothered me, I am also mailing a donation of five dollars to the *Militant* to which I have already renewed my subscription.

I am not 100 per cent in agreement with some of the views expressed in the *Militant* just as I am not in 100 per cent agreement with the *National Guardian*.

I believe that both the *Guardian* and the *Militant* are worthy papers and deserve my support. They are both leftist papers, the *Guardian* in a small degree and

the *Militant* in a greater degree. Of course, that is my personal opinion. I commend you on your improved tabloid format.

Henry Meltsner

Missouri Write-In

St. Louis
Others have written to you saying their votes for Dobbs and Weiss were not counted. In St. Louis, election officials were not even going to let me cast a write-in vote. But I phoned the American Civil Liberties Union and they assured me Missouri Law guarantees that right.

After I let it be known I was going to demand my right, one of the women at the polls explained how it could be done. It seems she was the only one who knew how.

I read in a letter to the *Post-Dispatch* that a woman and her husband were told they couldn't cast a write-in, but friends of theirs had been able to.

How about the left groups here at least uniting together on such issues as publicizing the right to cast a write-in vote and working up to get workers' candidates on the ballot, which is the only kind of a fight that will build a real workers movement in this state?

D. C.

Sweetening Up Trujillo

New York
At the OAS meeting in Costa Rica last year, the U.S. voted to cut its imports from the Dominican Republic and later it broke off diplomatic relations. Many people welcomed this as a blow against the hated, oppressive regime of dictator Trujillo.

But they were a little hasty, as I found in reading some fine print in the back pages of the *Hemisphere Economic Review* of the *New York Times*.

It reported the redistribution of Cuba's former sugar quota. The biggest single increase in sugar orders from the U.S. has gone to none other than Trujillo. The old quota was 27,789 tons. The new quota is 250,513 tons.

Nor has the tourist trade to Trujillo's "little acre" of freedom been jeopardized. Washington has continued its consular service in Ciudad Trujillo to make it OK for U.S. citizens to travel there despite the diplomatic "break." It has not seen fit to do this in Havana.

R. P.

Some Proposals

Baltimore
Some suggestions and criticisms. 1. How about a regular political cartoon?

2. Less "blurbs" from the *New York Times* to make your points. More self-reliance.

3. Stepping up of labor-oriented columns. That is, more pertinently to rank-and-file workers.

4. Less of the method of the "guffaw" in criticizing capitalism. More "learned" approach.

H. H.

"Free World"?

Brooklyn, N. Y.
I get sick and tired of constantly hearing and reading the refrain, "the free world."

What is free about a world under threat of destruction by nuclear weapons?

What is free about a world of joblessness?

What is free about a world of segregation and discrimination?

What is free about a world of witch-hunting?

This is a world of fear — and where there is fear there is no freedom.

John H.

Thought for the Week

"Things have been looking better for us tree-climbers than for these space pushers ever since Hiroshima, and I'm willing to bet bananas against split atoms that the way things are going, all the space from Cape Canaveral to the Cameroons will belong to us." — From a letter to "Dear Mom," allegedly written by the chimpanzee Ham on returning from outer space, published by the *New York Post* as an editorial.

It Was Reported in the Press

State of the Union — "Wall Street responded enthusiastically yesterday to President Kennedy's State of the Union message. . . . In addition to a feeling that defense and missile shares would benefit directly from the President's program, brokers expressed the belief that the message augured well for confidence. Some suggested that its inflationary implications would help the market." — The Jan. 31 *New York Times*.

Love Those Layoffs — "Worried workers change attitudes toward jobs as slump worsens," chortles the *Wall Street Journal*. "A Chicago clothing maker," the paper reports, "decides now's the time to initiate a 'crash' efficiency program, cracking down on 'smoke breaks' and employees who line up at the time clock five minutes ahead of quitting time."

Operation Guantanamo — Last June the Treasury Department disclosed that a thousand Naval officers were using military planes to run undeclared liquor to the U.S. from Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba. On Feb. 3 the Customs